

How Hamupēke | Humpback Whale's baleen plates work

Humpback whales are filter feeders. They filter krill and other small organisms through their baleen plates, which hang from their top jaw, to feed. This game demonstrates how a humpback whale uses its baleen to filter feed.

You will need: a bowl (or other container), water, a cup, a comb and your version of krill (either grass or make your own 'fish'!)

- ① Fill your bowl/container with water.



- ② Put in your pretend "Krill". You can use grass or anything that floats!



- ③ The cup represents the whales large mouth opening. Gulp up some water, then place the comb over the cup just like baleen (from the top down).



- ④ Slowly filter/pour the water out through the 'Baleen' (the teeth of the comb), once all the water is gone the 'Krill' remain for the whale to swallow.

